

Message Text

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ACTION SIG-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /016 W
-----125508 202304Z /21
R 201901Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8000

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E.O.: 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASIG, BE
SUBJECT: 1978 INSPECTION REPORT ON BELGIUM: ACTION
ON RECOMMENDATIONS

REF: NEWLIN TO DETARR LETTER DATED JUNE 30, 1978

1. HERewith THE REQUESTED REPORT OF EMBASSY AND CON-
SULATE GENERAL ANTWERP ON RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM
1978 POST INSPECTION.

2. INSPECTOR.S MEMORANDUM (IM) NO. 4, RECOMMENDATION
2-3.

THE EMBASSY RECRUITED A CONTRACTOR TO UNDERTAKE SEVERAL
MARKET STUDIES. THIS PROPOSAL WAS ACCEPTED BY THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (USDOC CABLE NO. 7849, APRIL 24,
1978).

3. IM NO. 4, RECOMMENDATION 2-5.

ON JULY 11 THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE REACHED AN AGREEMENT
WITH DUN & BRADSTREET/BELGIUM TO PREPARE WORLD TRADE
DIRECTORY REPORTS. D&B WILL PREPARE APPROXIMATELY
100 WTDR.S ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS. THESE ARE REPORTS
WHICH WOULD NORMALLY BE SUBMITTED BY CONGEN/ANTWERP.

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AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE YEAR, THE EMBASSY AND CONGEN/
ANTWERP WILL REVIEW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS SYSTEM
TO SEE IF THE QUALITY IS UP TO PREVAILING COMMERCE
DEPARTMENT STANDARDS.

4. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2A-2.

UPON RECEIPT OF NECESSARY AUTHORIZATION, WE WILL EXPAND THE USE OF THE MINI-COMPUTER IN THOSE AREAS WHERE OUR PERSONNEL RESOURCE STRENGTH PERMITS.

5. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2D-1.

THE EMBASSY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF COPIES OF CABLES DISTRIBUTED TO EACH AGENCY/OFFICE. IN DOING SO, WE WILL, OF COURSE, BEAR IN MIND THE TIMELY NEED BY THE VARIOUS OFFICERS OF THE TELEGRAPHIC DATA.

6. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2D-2.

NOTED

7. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2H-2.

THE E&E PLAN WILL BE FORWARDED BEFORE AUGUST 1.

8. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2I-1.

THE JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE WORD PROCESSING CENTER (WPC) WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP MORE APPLICATIONS AS TIME PERMITS. THE WPC WILL BE EXPANDED TO ASSIST OTHER OFFICES SUPPORTED BY JAS AS SOON AS ALL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKLOAD HAS BEEN ABSORBED. AT THAT TIME, THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE THREE STATE DEPARTMENT MISSIONS SUPPORTED BY JAS WILL BE EXAMINED IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH PRIORITIES.

9. IM NO. 6, RECOMMENDATION 2I-2.

A COST BENEFIT RATIO STUDY OF THE WPC WILL BE PERFORMED AS RECOMMENDED.

10. IM NO. 7, RECOMMENDATION 2-1.

REVIEW PANELS WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE OER.S.

11. IM NO. 7, RECOMMENDATION 2-2.

TIMELY WORK REQUIREMENT STATEMENTS WILL BE PREPARED.

12. IM NO. 7, RECOMMENDATION 2-3.

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ACTION SIG-03

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TWXT PARA 19)

12. IM NO. 7, RECOMMENDATION 2-3.

OER.S ON FSL.S WILL BE PREPARED ANNUALLY AND WHEREVER
NECESSARY.

13. IM NO. 8, RECOMMENDATION 1-1

WE ARE EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF COVERING THE WINDOWS
ON THE INWARD SIDE OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN ANTWERP
WITH WIRE MESH OR GRILLS, BUT FIRE AND SAFETY CONSIDER-
ATIONS HAVE, THUS FAR, ELIMINATED ALL RECOMMENDATIONS.S

14. IM NO. 8, RECOMMENDATION 1-2.

A RADIO HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN THE CONSULATE GENERAL'S
VEHICLE.

15. IM NO. 8, RECOMMENDATION 1-3.

A CUMMINGS 48 SHREDDER FOR ANTWERP HAS BEEN INCLUDED
IN THE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

16. IM NO. 9, RECOMMENDATION 2B-1.

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MODE PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED WITH REGARD TO THE

DAO STAFFING LEVEL.

NO. 10, RECOMMENDATION 2A-5.

17. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY CHANGE IS NECESSARY IN THE STATUS OF ELSO OR ITS EMPLOYEES.

THE TWO FSO.S AND TWO FSL.S ASSIGNED TO ELSO ENJOY THE SAME RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES EXTENDED TO THE OTHER U.S.G. EMPLOYEES PHYSICALLY LOCATED IN THE CONSULATE GENERAL.

IN THE EYES OF THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT, THE ELSO OFFICE IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL. THE ONLY AREA WHICH DIFFERENTIATES THIS OFFICE FROM THE REST OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL IS ITS LOCATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT ALLOWS EITHER NATION TO POSSESS BUILDINGS. THE ENTRANCE TO THE ELSO OFFICE SPACE CONTAINS A PLAQUE WHICH CLEARLY IDENTIFIES IT AS PART OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL.

18. IM NO. 10, RECOMMENDATION 2C-1.

THE EMBASSY'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SCHOOL BOARD HAS DEVELOPED THE DATA FOR SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT.

19. IM NO. 11, RECOMMENDATION 2.

IN OUR OPINION, THE DISADVANTAGES OF THE PROPOSAL TO SUPPLY APPLIANCES OUTWEIGH THE ADVANTAGES. IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM, WE WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL, EXPANDED WAREHOUSE SPACE, AND PERSONNEL TO STORE AND MAINTAIN INVENTORY ACCOUNTABILITY, AND AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE THE APPLIANCES LOCALLY SINCE U.S. APPLIANCES WILL NOT ALWAYS FIT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN MANY OF THE LOCAL RESIDENCES. IN ADDITION, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN EQUITY, PERSONNEL OF ALL OTHER AGENCIES IN BRUSSELS, WHICH EQUAL OVER 50 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION, WOULD ALSO NEED SIMILAR APPLIANCES. CHAMBERS

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